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Baptisms drop

SBC shows healthy gains; training figure jumps

By Jim Lowry

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Healthier growth than predicted in December characterized Southern Baptists' final 1981 statistical report. Totals exceeded December projections in all areas except mission expenditures.

Church training, the one program projected to decline in 1981, showed a gain of more than 18,000 in the final figures. A sample analysis of church information letters in December predicted a loss of more than 10,000.

Points of special significance in this year's report are that the number of SBC churches topped 36,000 for the first time; membership is nearly 13.8 million; total gifts passed \$2.75 billion; and Brotherhood enrollment went over the half-million level for the first time since 1964.

This is only the second time since 1963 that all five church programs have increased, with Sunday School leading the way by going over the 7.5-million mark for the first time since 1968. Baptisms was the only area to record a loss from the previous year, but they still exceeded 400,000.

"The final report was better than the December projections this year because an estimated 1,000 letters from churches were involved in special processing and were left out of the projection figures," said Martin Bradley, secretary of the research services department at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

It looked like a funeral

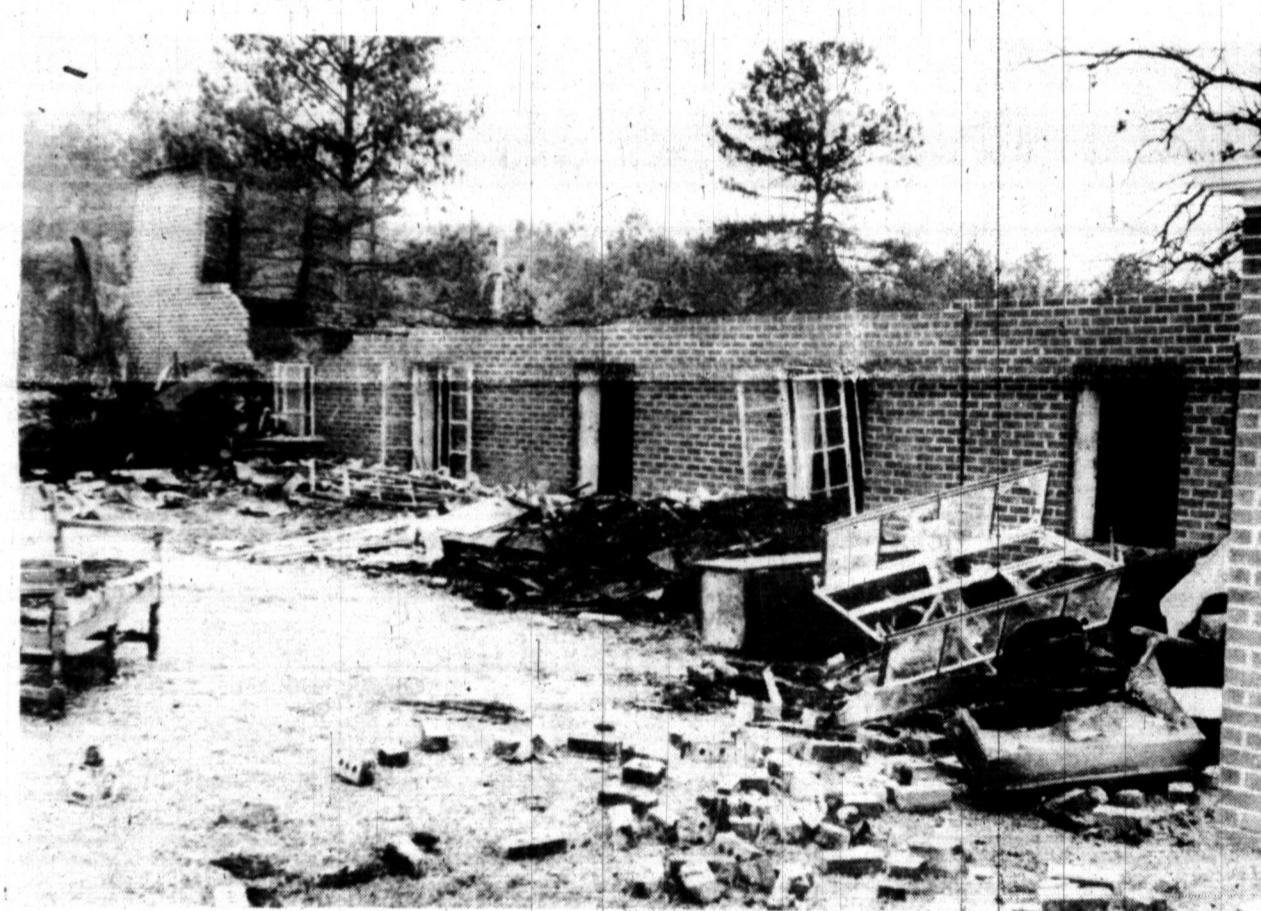
By Jerry Stevens

Director of Missions

Winston County Association

The surroundings made it look like a funeral, everyone was crying, there were flowers, there were songs of hope, the pastor's chin quivered with emotion, his eyes stained from the tears he had shed. But there was no corpse. There was sadness mingled with hope. There were the remembrances of the past mingled with the expectations of the future. It was Liberty Baptist Church people meeting at a 1 p.m. service in the Noxapater Baptist Church. They were meeting there because their church building had burned on Friday morning. They were considering it a great loss, because of what had happened in that old building. Many of them had been saved there, to others it was their Bethel, where they had wrestled with God. Many of them had worked with their own hands, driving nails, smoothing plaster, laying bricks and putting the building together. So, a part of them had gone up in flames. There were the hymn books, the library books, the instruments of music that had been

(Continued on page 2)



Fire makes rubble of church building

These are the remains of the building where Bethany Baptist Church, Lauderdale County, worshipped. The building burned February 27 and despite the work of four volunteer firefighting units, was a total loss. The building was insured for \$100,000. Jimmy Garrard, pastor, told the Baptist Record the church plans to rebuild as soon as possible. Church building consultant Neron Smith of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, has already met with the building committee. Members are meeting in a building that was once a school, then an insulation factory. Six years ago, a tornado blew away the pastorum occupied by Garrard and

his family. Still able to crack a smile, Garrard quipped that he was "the only church in Lauderdale County that had fire in the pulpit that reached out into the pews." He quickly added that only the physical fire had been put out. The church was to participate in a Sunday School enlargement campaign along with 20 other county churches. Census takers said they were astonished to find 217 prospects in the Whynot community around Bethany. Garrard said the church will follow up on the enlargement campaign after its building is finished. Maurice Flowers of Jones County will lead the campaign.

Secular standards of measurement aid minister burnout

NASHVILLE (BP)—Two Southern Baptist pastors confronting burnout in the ministry say pressures of time and secular standards of measurement imposed on the church are significant problems for many of the denomination's ministers.

The magnitude and number of pressures involved in serving as pastor of a local church are as varied as the pastors themselves, but the common denominators seem to be unrealistic expectations on time and demands of productivity.

Floyd Higginbotham, Calvary Baptist Church, Batesville, Miss., and Bill Oakley, First Baptist Church, Piggott, Ark., with 30 and 32 years experience as pastors, respectively, recognize problems which they believe are faced by ministers.

Depression, internal conflict, breakdown in relationships with family and church members, overwork and rationalization for missed goals, are some of the symptoms of burnout listed by the pastors as they examined their own experiences.

Both pastors attended a seminar on burnout in ministry out of a desire to be more effective and caring leaders of their congregations—both spiritually and through more efficient administration. Both men spoke with high regard for their present church and the support of members there.

Oakley, who has been pastor of six churches and is a former employee of the Baptist State Convention of Michigan, described himself as a perfectionist who is faced by an inner compulsion to accomplish all tasks in the church. His recognition of these symptoms helps him deal with the in-

evitable stress of failure when some tasks are left undone. Confident delegation of responsibility is a difficult but necessary step for him.

For Higginbotham, who has been pastor of seven churches, the pressure of preparation for preaching three times each week and leading a one-hour Bible study are primary sources of frustration leading to the symptoms of burnout and unfinished goals. The preacher must "produce" if he is to be perceived as successful. "The problem is created by secular standards of measurement imposed on the church," he said.

"People look at the budget, the number of baptisms, church growth and Sunday School attendance," echoed Oakley. "In our denomination, a pastor is expected to produce."

"These are the things that are measurable, yet I'm not sure they are always the most important," he continued. "The ministry is a highly stressful calling."

Oakley, 50, and Higginbotham, 48, also agreed that age restrictions set by pastor search committees are a constant source of frustration and pressure for men their age.

"We've set the standard in the Southern Baptist Convention that a man at age 45 is about through," Oakley said, primarily referring to mobility and acceptability to churches seeking pastors. "We are both at the age where we have to do a lot of praying about God's intention for our lives. I believe God will take care of it, but worrying about it gives me stress."

"I'm in a position at my age to be the best pastor I've ever been because of the experiences I've gone through."



Bill Oakley (left), First Baptist Church, Piggott, Ark., and Floyd Higginbotham, Calvary Baptist Church, Batesville, Miss., agree burnout in the ministry can affect the effectiveness of pastors who live daily in the highly stressful conditions of their calling. Photo by David F. Haywood.

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BENNETT HAROLD
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needs call for Bold Giving

By Foy Rogers, Director
Mississippi Cooperative Missions Department

All Mississippi Baptists are challenged to double anything they have ever done for home missions. Our homeland needs to hear about Jesus. Our Home Mission Board has been given this task. Every Christian wants to see people saved. Let's go and tell. This requires giving. Let us be BOLD in our giving.

Every association in Mississippi is involved in this emphasis. This calls for boldness. The state Woman's Missionary Union goal for 1982 calls for a 40 percent increase in giving, the highest percentage increase ever suggested by the Mississippi WMU. The Home Mission Board set a goal that calls for a 27.5 percent increase. This, too, is a record increase. Thus, BOLDNESS is the word. CHRIST is the MESSAGE, and SUPPORT is urgently needed now.

Please examine your own heart and pray earnestly for God's guidance. Let's do something bold this year, not for Mississippi Baptists, or the Home Mission Board as such, but for the Lord. Let us help take our homeland for Jesus and double anything we have ever done for home missions.

The Home Mission Board has the greatest task that has been given to any Christian group in modern history. Inflation has taken its toll and slowed down the advance in sharing the message.

The cost of travel and the cost of living have both taken their toll. Therefore, it is urgent that we give more than we have ever given if we do as much or more than we have ever done.

Every association in Mississippi will be blessed with the services of a home missions speaker during this emphasis, thanks to the directors of missions for 100 percent participation and to the Home Mission Board for providing personnel. Please join me in prayer for the bold missions challenge and let's double anything we have ever done for home missions in Mississippi.

William Carey really was a home missionary who challenged English Baptists to attempt great things for God and expect great things from God. It was in the North Hampshire Baptist Association where he preached his deathless sermon from Isaiah 54:2, "Enlarge the place of thy tent and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes."

The Home Mission Board is involved in lengthening the cords for the homeland and in preparation for reaching the world. It also strengthens the stake for every ministry we have, whether in the association, the state convention, the home land, or the foreign land. Carey was not only ministering in an association, but was serving in his home land. He became the father of our modern missionary movement and later went to the foreign field. Always bear in mind that he began his ministry by strengthening the stakes in his homeland.

Editorial

Insurance review needed

For some reason church fires are a commonplace occurrence. This is a very painful occurrence, for many times in churches what is everybody's business is nobody's business, and the insurance is neglected.

In the past few years, building costs have risen in almost breathtaking fashion. So while building costs may have leveled off somewhat at this point, one would not need to go very far back in time to find that the cost of building was much lower than what would be the case today if rebuilding became necessary. By the same token, insurance that was not examined and upgraded just a very short time back is

without a doubt out of date. It would not cover the cost of reconstruction.

This is the experience of many churches that have lost worship centers, education buildings, and even pastor's homes.

It is always bad to be without the necessary building for any length of time, but it is devastating to experience the loss and not be able to replace it without a great deal of anguish.

So if it's everybody's business and nobody's business, whose business is it? Well, any church member can ask questions in business meetings that would start the ball rolling. The pas-

(Continued on page 4)

Agricultural missions group to hear Cheyne

Immanuel Baptist Church, Greenwood, will be the site of the March 12 annual meeting of Agricultural Missions Fellowship. Agricultural Missions Fellowship is a non-profit organization of lay persons and pastors who have banded together to support the work of those missionaries of the Foreign Mission Cheyne Board who help needy people learn how to produce more of their food and fiber needs.

"Ag Missions provides its members with the opportunity for direct involvement in mission projects," according to AMF President Gene Triggs. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. and will feature two Foreign Mission Board representatives.



John Cheyne, consultant for relief ministries, and a former Southern Baptist missionary to Rhodesia and Ethiopia will be the principal speaker. In his present capacity, Cheyne is responsible for coordinating the relief efforts of Southern Baptists around the world.

Assistance has been given to such countries as Poland, El Salvador, Bangladesh and Thailand. Cheyne will report on these efforts and his recent extended trip to Africa at the March 12 meeting.

Also appearing on the program will be Agricultural missionary Dale Carter who will show and tell about his agricultural missionary work in north Brazil. Carter has been in Brazil since 1958. He managed the farming and ranching operations of the Baptist Institute of Corrente and serves as Vice Director and Treasurer of the Institute.

Higginbotham added, "Yet this is the age where churches don't want you. The pastorate is the only profession I know where a person doesn't continue to advance."

Another responsibility which is time consuming for pastors and creates severe stress is the increasing number of requests for counseling by church members. Sermon preparation time requirements, coupled with visitation, administration and planning leave little time for talking with members about problems.

"I overschedule myself to the point I work approximately 70-75 hours each week," Oakley said. "That's probably common among ministers, but it affects my work."

"How do you tell a church member you love and care for that you just don't have time to deal with his problem at the present time?" Oakley asked. "It gives me a deep sense of agony to turn someone down."

Oakley has four fulltime persons on the church staff including himself. Part-time persons handle finances and the summer youth program. Staff openings create pressure for other staff members with work flow while trying to fill the position.

For Higginbotham, because he is the only staff member, comes the added pressure of trying to be all things to all church members. Motivating and enlisting volunteers, attending committee meetings and preparing for sermons often leave him frustrated because there just are not enough hours in the day.

"In a church with one staff member, the pastor has to initiate the activity, whether it is recreation, fellowship, education or Bible study," Higginbotham said. "You also have to be a participant in all the activities."

Giving time to these necessary, worthwhile activities then serves as another source of stress for the one-staff-member pastor who finds himself lacking adequate time for sermon preparation.

Higginbotham and Oakley were two of 33 pastors attending a seminar at the Sunday School Board to study the symptoms and causes of burnout in the ministry and how to deal with the problem personally.

Brooks Faulkner, career guidance supervisor in the board's church administration department, directed the seminar using his new book, *Burnout in Ministry—How to Recognize It, How to Avoid It*, as the text.

(Story by Jim Lowry who writes for the Sunday School Board.)

Thursday, March 11, 1982

SBC Executive Committee sets \$106 million budget

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—The first \$100 million-plus budget in the history of the Southern Baptist Convention has been approved by the SBC Executive Committee.

The \$106 million Cooperative Program Allocation Budget will be presented to messengers of the 1982 annual meeting in New Orleans for final action.

Adoption of the budget by the 67-member Executive Committee "is only one step in the multifaceted Cooperative Program budgeting process," said W. Dewey Presley, a Dallas banker who is chairman of the committee's program and budget subcommittee.

He explained the budgeting process began last September, when agency executives of the SBC's 20 agencies listed priorities and needs. Then, in a subcommittee meeting in January, a more detailed presentation was made, and the budget proposal drawn, Presley said.

Presley noted "the entire budget supports Bold Mission Thrust, the denomination's plan to present the gospel to every person in the world by the year 2000."

The budget provides \$96,635,000 as the basic operating budget; \$3,365,000 for capital needs, and \$6,000,000 as the challenge phase.

That compares with the 1981-82 budget of \$93 million, of which \$83,400,000 was the basic operating budget; \$3,000,600 was for capital needs, and \$6,599,400 was the challenge phase.

Under the proposal, the Foreign Mission Board will receive \$47,839,300, a 17.06 percent increase over the 1981-82 allocation of \$40,866,000. The Home Mission Board will receive \$19 million, a 16.83 percent increase over the \$16,263,000 last year. The Annuity Board will receive \$478,000, a 26.46 percent increase over the \$378,000 last year.

The six seminaries will receive \$20,520,600, a 13.26 percent increase over the \$18,118,900 last year.

Golden Gate Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., will receive \$1,917,049; Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City,

\$1,775,896; New Orleans Seminary, \$3,437,840; Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., \$3,201,053; Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., \$4,497,014; and Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, \$5,691,748.

The seminary allocations are made under a complicated formula based in part on full-time equivalency enrollment and per student costs.

Other agencies:

Southern Baptist Foundation, \$213,450; American Baptist Theological Seminary Commission, \$203,450;

Brotherhood Commission, \$758,100;

Christian Life Commission, \$562,800;

Education Commission, \$378,400;

Historical Commission, \$328,000;

Radio-TV Commission, \$4,229,000;

Stewardship Commission, \$344,500;

Public Affairs Committee, \$30,000.

The Southern Baptist Convention Operating Budget received an allocation of \$1,422,000, a 13.94 percent increase over the \$1,173,000 last year.

The Executive Committee also adopted a 1982-83 SBC Operating Budget, for presentation to the 1982 annual meeting in New Orleans.

The budget, based on total income of \$2,144,500, provides \$631,900 for convention operations, which includes general operations, the SBC building in Nashville, the annual meeting and expenses of SBC committees.

Convention administration is budgeted for \$908,300; public relations at \$308,500, and the Baptist World Alliance contribution at \$295,800.

In the Cooperative Program Allocation Budget, the capital needs section provides \$201,400 to Golden Gate Seminary for construction of child care facilities; \$306,000 to Midwestern Seminary for a student center and energy package; \$1,000,000 to New Orleans Seminary for a student center and cafeteria; \$1,365,000 to Southeastern Seminary for a student center and other building renovation; \$221,000 to Southwestern Seminary for a resources and research center and building renovation and \$271,600 to the Radio-TV Commission for tape duplication and TV equipment.

Phase One of the Challenge Budget

provides \$500,000 to the six seminaries.

Phase Two provides \$2,750,000 to the Foreign Mission Board, representing 50 percent of the total of \$5,500,000. The Home Mission Board would receive \$1,200,000, or 21.82 percent.

Others included in Phase Two are the SBC Operating Budget, \$200,000; seminaries, \$600,000; Christian Life Commission, \$75,000; Historical Commission, \$50,000; Stewardship Commission, \$45,000, and Public Affairs Committee, \$30,000.

Mission gifts in state total \$2,272,673

Cooperative Program gifts for missions for February from the churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention of \$1,196,121 brought the total for the year-to-date to \$2,272,673, according to an announcement by Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

"We had million-dollar months in missions giving for both January and February in spite of the fact that both months ended on Sunday," Kelly said. "This is encouraging."

The gifts for February went above the monthly pro rata portion of the annual budget by \$36,119. The annual budget for this year is \$13,920,500, making the monthly portion \$1,160,042.

The February receipts were \$224,926 more than those for the same month of last year for a 23.2 percent increase. Combined with the \$1,076,552 figure for January, the February gifts still left the year-to-date total \$47,410 short of the prorated budget for two months.

Mississippi seminary celebrates 40th

Mississippi Baptist Seminary celebrates its 40th anniversary next week, Mar. 16, 17, 18, at its main center, 3160 Lynch St., Jackson.

The three evening programs will be identical and each will begin at 6 p.m. A verbal history of the seminary will be presented by Hickman Johnson, academic dean. A film on the seminary's community impact will be shown. And President Dick Brogan will discuss the seminary's future.

A survey of users shows almost unanimous support for the films," he said.



Money management seminar

A group of Baptist leaders gathered at the Baptist Building recently for training and orientation in Christian Family Money Management. John Alexander, director of the Stewardship Department, said, "Christian stewardship involves the management of all the powers and material possessions that Christians have. The practice of this larger stewardship is the responsibility of all Christians, and teaching Christians how to live and grow as Christian managers is a major responsibility of church leaders. We are constantly searching for ways to help family's money go farther." Several special workers have been trained by the stewardship department to assist churches and pastors with conferences in the area of Christian Family Money Management. From left are Julius Thompson, Stewardship Department consultant; Bobby Perry and J. W. Brister, special workers; Bonita Bridges; Jan King, department secretary; and John Alexander. Bonita Bridges, Area Consumer Management Specialist with the Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service, served as a resource leader, and spoke to the group meeting at the Baptist Building. Churches needing help in the area of Christian Family Money Management may consult the Stewardship Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Joni to marry

SUN VALLEY, Calif. (EP)—Joni Eareckson, for 15 years a quadriplegic following a swimming accident in the Chesapeake Bay when she was 17, will marry Ken Tada on July 3, 1982, in Grace Community Church here. The 35-year-old groom is a high school teacher and a coach in the "Special Olympics" designed for handicapped youngsters.

Joni, star of the movie by that name and the author of two best-selling books, Joni and A Step Further, met Tada at Grace Community Church. They will live in Joni's specially equipped house in Woodland Hills, Calif., close to the office of her agency, Joni and Friends.

Bold People Search subject of videotape

The Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department has prepared a video cassette tape on the Nationwide Bold People Search being promoted for October 17-20, 1982.

The 1/2 inch, color, 17 minutes, VHS video tape is available free on loan through the Baptist Building Video Tape Services.

The tape, prepared by Mose Dangerfield, Mississippi Bold People Search Coordinator, is designed for churches and associations who are planning to conduct a People Search and need directions on how to plan and conduct the event.

As a part of the tape, an actual door-to-door interview is conducted as an example of what might happen. A discussion also follows on how to conduct the survey.

Churches and associations should call the program directors office (968-3912) to book the tape. Copies can be supplied on both 1/2 inch and 3/4 inch tapes.

The United Bible Societies, the worldwide fellowship of 66 national Bible Societies is now directly or indirectly involved in translation projects in more than 500 languages around the world.

Baptist Bookstores drop Mormon film productions

By Linda Lawson

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Citing concern about potential damage to the ministries of Southern Baptist churches, Sunday School Board president Grady Cothen announced Baptist Film Centers will no longer distribute two films produced by Brigham Young University.

The films, "Cipher in the Snow" and "John Baker's Last Race," have been available through Broadman Films and Baptist Film Centers since 1975 and 1977, respectively. Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, is an institution of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormons).

Cothen said both films are inspirational in nature and neither contains any doctrinal content. They have rented about 4,000 times through the film centers to churches and individuals.

"A survey of users shows almost unanimous support for the films," he said.

However the board's distribution of

the films has recently been a target of a letter-writing protest campaign. Also, Cothen said, "We have received communications from responsible pastors who believe that any appearance of identification with sects is detrimental to their churches and their ministries."

The remaining confirmed bookings of the films will be honored, Cothen said.

(Linda Lawson writes for The Sunday School Board.)

Top state church per capita Cooperative Program gifts

Church	Per Cap Gift	Coop Prog	Res. Mbrs.
1. Prentiss	167.86	\$4,772.43	505
2. New Concord	145.83	875.00	6
3. FBC, Yazoo City	135.37	129,824.34	956
Arthur Engels	133.33	7,200.00	54
4. Center Ridge	130.82	75,044.62	578
5. FBC, Leland	120.87	181,947.24	1,502
6. FBC, Columbus	119.61	4,067.00	34
7. Berwick	102.38	66,961.07	654
8. FBC, Corinth	101.35	128,111.39	1,264
9. FBC, Columbia	98.24	3,340.44	34
10. Smyrna	94.80	62,667.32	661
11. FBC, Winona	91.43	16,773.20	183
12. Calvary	90.48	114,193.41	1,262
13. FBC, Grenada	88.71	25,906.09	292
14. Woodville	87.76	3,068.27	35
15. Enon	87.30	25,928.74	297
16. FBC, Rolling Fork	86.73	13,009.54	150
17. Trinity	84.67	41,747.15	493
18. FBC, Poplarville	83.56	22,223.11	242
19. Hickory	81.49	50,199.64	616
20. Rawls Springs	81.30	52,360.71	644
21. FBC, Wiggins	80.99	12,068.79	149
22. Hebron	79.88	63,186.06	791
23. FBC, Cleveland	79.03	5,137.26	65
24. Goodwater	78.59	83,078.13	1,057
25. Calvary, Tupelo	77.94	22,790.92	2,945
26. Broadmoor	77.54	10,011.00	132
27. Providence	75.19	6,240.67	83
28. Duncan	74.94	9,368.46	125
29. Myrtle	73.96	34,253.59	463
30. FBC, Ellisville	73.48	97,582.09	1,328
31. FBC, Vicksburg	72.96	43,557.77	597
32. Union	72.91	73,497.83	1,008
33. FBC, Crystal Springs	72.31	87,281.76	1,207
34. FBC, Brandon	71.59	62,500.00	873
35. FBC, Amory	71.31	22,249.33	312
36. Washington	70.57	15,727.24	254
37. Russell	70.21	15,454.21	217
38. FBC, Waynesboro	69.49	42,111.34	605
39. Fairview	69.39	76,053.30	1,119
40. FBC, Ripley	68.79	37,667.97	554
41. Highland	67.71	7,745.75	115
42. Crosby	67.34	5,724.36	85
43. Sandy Hook	67.25	4,304.36	64
44. FBC, Canton	65.98	45,992.82	697
45. Learned	65.95	2,836.26	43
46. Centerville	65.63	2,300.45	160
47. Union	64.89	8,177.38	126
48. Lake Como	64.81	44,585.33	699
49. Highland	63.78	15,727.24	254
50. Roxie	63.77	12,244.44	192
51. Temple	63.52	1,651.72	26
52. FBC, Newton	63.01	43,541.63	691
53. Tyro	62.01	10,501.45	

Editorials . . .

Pari-mutuel gambling dies

House Bill 191, the one that would have brought pari-mutuel gambling to Mississippi, died in the House on Thursday of last week when it failed by a vote of 72 to 42. Baptist Representative Pat Presley and Catholic Representative Charles Lippian, both of Jackson County, led the assault on the bill that resulted in its defeat.

They were ably assisted by two more Baptists, Lonnie Johnson of Rankin County and Mike Eakes of Neshoba County, and a Presbyterian, Betty Long of Lauderdale County. Another Jackson County representative, Stephen Hale, a Mormon, also spoke against the bill; and the other Baptist from Jackson County, Adrian Lee Jr., was active behind the scenes in fighting the bill.

The only Jackson County representative who voted for the bill was Ted Milliette, a Catholic. While he was the sponsor of the bill, he did not speak in its defense.

The bill began as a measure to make pari-mutuel gambling available only in Jackson County. The House Ways and Means Committee amended it before sending it to the floor to include all counties bordering on the Gulf of Mexico or another state. That was a telling blow. It was apparent throughout that several legislators would vote to let gambling be established in Jackson County, but they didn't want it in their own. This was the attack used by Miss Long and Eakes as they fought the bill. Miss Long sought to throw one of the several parliamentary snags in the path of the bill as she offered an amendment that would have made it apply statewide. This failed in a roll call vote of 48 to 66, but she later came back to challenge the legislators to have the integrity to vote against the bill if they would not want it in their county.

Eakes said he believes the major cause of the situation in America today is the result of a breakdown in the moral fiber of the nation. He said if gambling "is not good for your county, it is not good for the coast."

Supporters of the bill first tried to get it amended to apply only to Jackson County, figuring that many legislators would be more willing to vote for that. A Lippian substitute motion for the amendment sought to make it include the three counties along the Gulf Coast. Presley pled for the substitute and the amendment to be defeated so that the bill would be in the form in which it came out of committee. First the substitute was voted down and then a call for an immediate move to vote on the bill was defeated by a 57 to 56 vote. Then the amendment was defeated.

Then Lippian offered an amendment that would delete the section making the local legislative delegation responsible for determining one of the track commissioners. This was defeated. Another previous question vote failed; and a motion by Johnson to recommit the bill to the Ways and Means Committee, which would have killed it, was tied at 56 to 56, and thus not effective. Then another previous question vote failed by 66 to 46.

It was at this point that Miss Long presented her proposed amendment. After it had failed Hale took the floor to point out that the issue was gambling, not horse racing. Presley noted that there are more losers than winners, and Johnson said that statistics show that legal gambling increases illegal gambling.

Lippian, the small man with the big spirit, declared that gambling would bring on social problems that would pollute the community. He was the fiery little preacher all the way through committee meetings and floor debate. He quoted scripture at every opportunity, saying, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" He told the many horse industry people in the

audience, "Legalized gamblers need you. You don't need them."

At that point Eakes spoke, and then another attempt to call for the previous question failed. Then Bill Jones of Forrest County and Alan Santa Cruz of Harrison County spoke for the bill, and it came to a vote. The result was the resounding 72 to 42 defeat.

The citizens of Mississippi owe a debt to some courageous legislators who stood in the face of a determined effort to get this bill passed and brought the House around to their position. And we citizens must realize that more than likely the same issue will surface again next year. The gamblers don't quit. They rely on the idea that the other side will grow weary of the fight.

We must support those who will again stand against this measure if it is brought up again. The better approach would be to let the legislators know before the next session begins that we don't want to hear of it again.

Baptists can control the moral climate in this state whenever we take a notion to do so. A dedicated group of people was doing it for us last week. We must recognize and appreciate their efforts.

Those voting against the gambling bill were Albritton, Allen, Anderson, Andrews, Atkinson, Barefield, Blount,

Breland, Brooks, Bryan, Campbell, Casey, Cates, Clark, Coleman, Dobbins, Dollar, Eakes, Everett, Floyd, Ford, Frazier, Gary, Gilbreath, Grist, Halbrook, Hale, Hall, Hanson, Hollinger, Holmes, Horne, Horton, Huggins, Hutto, Johnson, King, Lee, Lippian, Livingston, Long, Manning, McCoy, McMillan, McNatt, Miller, Morrow, Neal, Nunnally, Pennebaker, Pindexter, Presley, Reynolds, Richardson, Robinson, Sheppard, Simmons, Rob Smith, Stennis, Stringer, Stubbs, Townsend, Vince, Wadkins, Walman, Warren, Watson, Jerry Wilkerson, Charles Williams, Kenneth Williams, Guy Williams, and Wilson. Absent were Chambliss, Fredericks, Lambert, Malone, McIngvale, Robertson, Shumake, and Thomas. All others voted for the bill.

A word of appreciation must be expressed for Butch McMillan of Attala County and Lippian for calling the editor at critical times to point out what was going on.

A motion to reconsider the bill made passage still possible until Saturday, when the House met to give attention to all the bills that had been held over for reconsideration. In a meeting that lasted less than an hour, however, there was no one to ask for the reconsideration of H. B. 191, and adjournment snuffed it out completely.

Native wine advertising

During all of the attention that was given H.B. 191, another bill quietly made its way through the House and into the Senate. It was H. B. 905 with the intent to legalize the advertising of the products of native wineries. Native wineries are those wineries that operate in Mississippi using grapes grown in Mississippi for their products. One such winery is reported to be in operation at Mississippi State University.

In 1976 while he was still in the Senate, Bill Burdin of Columbus intro-

duced a bill, along with Sen. Ellis Bodron of Vicksburg, that allowed wine to be made in Mississippi from native-grown grapes. By law, however, it is illegal to advertise either wine or liquor in Mississippi. The Legislature keeps turning back the annual effort to have alcohol advertising made legal. Hopefully, it will be done again in this case. If it should not, there is no telling on what additional doors those would come knocking who have an interest in liquor sales.

Letters to the Editor

Aid for lost libraries

Editor:

I became alarmed because of the large number of church fires in recent months and pondered about any aid I could offer to my fellow pastors who experienced church fires. Some had lost an entire library.

I thought of the loss of valuable books, the out-of-print volumes, and the expense involved. I looked at my library and thought: "Why not share?"

Now upon hearing or reading of a fire in a church, I choose a good book from my library and mail it to my preacher brother with a note of encouragement.

We all can spare a few of our books. Let them form a nucleus for a pastor's new library.

Dan D. Bryson, Pastor
First Baptist Church
Clinton, MS.

Help for Vermont Baptists

Editor:

Thanks to Mississippi Baptists we of the Precision Valley Baptist Church are able to meet in our own building after meeting in homes, campgrounds, Masonic hall, and schools. We even met for a while in an old school bus. We are now warm and can worship without shivering and shaking.

As questions. They may elicit answers that would determine that action is necessary. The action that is needed could be vital.

We had our dedication on Dec. 6.

We have received financial help

from many Mississippi Baptists and we are very grateful for all their help. We are especially grateful for the Scott County Association for commitment and support that enabled us to go ahead with our building project.

I am a native of Scott County, Miss. My wife, Peggy; daughter, Kathy; and I have been in Vermont since August of '76.

Aubrey C. Jones, Pastor
Precision Valley Baptist Church
P.O. Box 13
Springfield, VT 05156

Church Training growth

Editor:

A recent news release reported the 18,560 increase in Church Training enrollment for 1980-81. As you know, this is the second year in a row that Church Training has had a major increase in enrollment! Thank you for the support you have given Church Training in your paper and for the hard work of the people of Mississippi.

It is partly because of you that our denomination has experienced such discipleship training milestones as Survival Kits, MasterLife, Equipping Centers, DiscipleLife Celebrations, doctrine study, and church growth curriculum.

Thank you for helping to make Church Training the vital program it should be!

Roy T. Edgemon, Director
Church Training Department

Just for the Record



ZION HILL CHURCH near Liberty, fourth oldest in Mississippi Baptist Association, recently recognized members with perfect attendance in Sunday School. Front row: James Fleming, deacon, two years; Willard McAllister, deacon, one year. Back: Mrs. School director, 18 years; Mrs. D. M. (Ruth) Dixon, Jr., Sunday School teacher, 18 years; and Mrs. Jackie (Barbara) Stokes, one year. Odus Jackson, pastor, is on back row, left.



SHERMAN BAPTIST CHURCH on Jan. 10 honored F. H. "Chunk" Bruce on his 88th birthday. Bruce has been a member of the Sherman Church for 71 years, having been saved at the age of 17. The church presented him a plaque in appreciation for his many years of service.

Highlight of the celebration was the burning of the note on the Activity Building completed in July, 1976. The final payment of \$14,327.86 was paid by Bruce in December, 1981. Another gift given to the church by Bruce was a Kawai Grand Piano. Left to right are Bill Davis; Bill Basden, deacon chairman; Byron Tate, deacon; Wayne Brooks, deacon and church treasurer; Paul Rakestraw, deacon; Milton Caldwell, deacon; "Chunk" Bruce; and Keith Gann, pastor.



"Drawn Together," sponsored by Mississippi State University BSU, ministers by sharing the gospel through Christian contemporary music, scripture, and testimony. Members are seated, left to right: Tammy English, Cindy Cleveland, Jenifer Hardin, Standing, John Crump, Roger Smith, Scott Lewis, Larry Stogner, Brian Price. The group includes four soloists, two guitarists, a drummer, a pianist, and a sound technician. More information about the group may be obtained from "Drawn Together," Baptist Student Union, Drawer BU, Miss. State, Miss. 39762.

Staff Changes

Ron Jenkins, former minister of music at Brooksville Baptist Church, Brooksville, and Trinity Baptist Church, West Point, has been called as minister of music and youth for Mulberry Park Baptist Church, Houma, La. Fuller Saunders, former pastor at Woodland Hills, Jackson, is pastor at Mulberry Park.

Mamon Morris has resigned as pastor of Drivers Flat Baptist Church, Calhoun County, and has begun his ministry as pastor of Pilgrim's Rest Church, Calhoun County.

Ricky Camp has resigned as pastor of Sherman Church (Calhoun County). Winfred Brasher has been called as interim pastor.

James Lee Bailey has resigned the pastorate of Liberty Hill Church, Panola Association, after five years. He has returned to Victory Church, Jefferson Davis Association, where he had served before going to Liberty Hill. His new address is Route 1, Box 44, Bassfield, Miss. 39421.

Ron Hurlbert has been called as pastor of First Baptist Church, Mississippi City. He goes there after several years in evangelism.

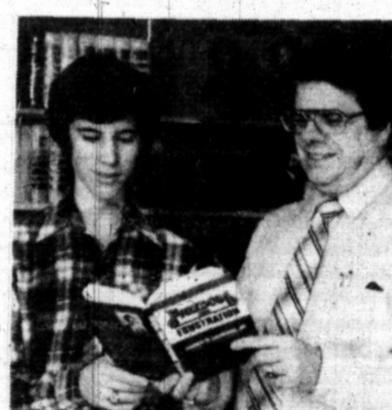
Richard Bradley has resigned as pastor of the Shoreline Park Baptist Church, Gulf Coast. He is available for pulpit supply and other areas of service.

Roland Satterfield has accepted a call to become minister of education at First Church, Tupelo.

Donnie Boutwell has moved from the pastorate of Four Mile Creek Baptist Church, Jackson Association, to the pastorate of Brewer Baptist Church, Perry County.

Dennis Dunn has resigned the pastorate of Union Hall Church, Lincoln County, to accept a church at Boyle.

Darryl Petry is the new minister of music and youth at Easthaven Church, Brookhaven.



Denham and Denham

Autograph party features pastor's newest book

Members of First Baptist Church, Newton, held an autograph party Sunday evening, Jan. 31, for their pastor, Hardy Denham. The session, after the evening service, was held in the Family Life Building. Denham's newest book, *Freedom from Frustration*, has been released by Broadman Press. It is hardback and sells for \$3.25. It is to be mailed to the 18,000 subscribers of the Broadman Readers' Plan.

The book is devoted entirely to the theme of frustration and is written for the man-in-the-street. Denham is pictured with his son, Stanley Ross Denham, one of his children to whom the book is dedicated.

WMU StarTeam member dies

Mrs. Jewell Smith of Brookhaven, 58, died Feb. 26 of viral pneumonia. The funeral was held Feb. 28 at Heucks Retreat Baptist Church, Lincoln County, where she was a member. Mrs. Smith, the former Aileen Nations, had served two terms as a member of the state WMU Board. At the time of her death she was serving as StarTeam member in a WMU enlargement effort. She was featured in an article in the Feb. 4 Baptist Record by Betty Smith about the new WMU at Gum Grove Church. Survivors include her husband; a sister; and three brothers.

Pastor and son design steeple

Calvary Baptist Church near Louin has a new steeple which was designed and built by the pastor, W. O. Partridge and son, Bobby. Young people of the church are painting the interior of the sanctuary. New pew pads have been ordered. A new heating and cooling system was installed last year for sanctuary and Sunday School classrooms. Established in 1962, Calvary is 20 years old this year. "In the past two years, the growth of the church has been quite obvious," a member said.

Names in the News

Thursday, March 11, 1982

25th anniversary

First, Yazoo City, will send church secretary to Holy Land

First Baptist Church, Yazoo City, proclaimed Feb. 14 Linda Jenkins Day in honor of its church secretary

receptionist's 25th anniversary on the staff.

The day included recognition and flowers in morning service, and a reception after the evening service. In appreciation for

taken courses at Mississippi College and has had secretarial courses and attended seminars at Southern Seminary and in Nashville.

In her church she is department director for the Children Eleven Sunday School and sings in the Sanctuary Choir. She is treasurer of the Yazoo County Baptist Association and first vice-president of the Mississippi Baptist Secretaries' Association. She has taught seminars around the state, and has served on the faculty at Gulfshore.

Beulah invites former pastors to homecoming

Beulah Baptist Church, Newton County, is making plans now for its July 11 homecoming day, said Harry Sartain, pastor. He stated that the church wants to invite its former pastors to the homecoming. They are Ben Davis, Bill Webb, Guy Jones, S. S. Kelly, A. O. Jenkins, W. E. Overstreet.

Born in Clarksdale, she moved to Yazoo City at an early age. An honor graduate of Yazoo City High, she began work on the church staff shortly after her graduation. She has since

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Dress A Child At Easter

— 1982 —

A GOOD GIFT:

Write or telephone us. Request sizes on a child in the age group of your choice. You may sew or shop as you choose and mail or deliver the clothing.

A BETTER GIFT:

Write or telephone us. Request our staff to take a child shopping for you. A better fit is insured and the child's own tastes are considered. \$75.00 will dress a child of 10 years or less; \$85.00 will dress a child from 10 to 14 years; \$115.00 will dress a high school or college youth, 15 years or older.

THE BEST GIFT:

Make a cash gift to our "Dress A Child At Easter" Fund. Help us dress EVERY child at the Village in church clothing for spring and summer and help us underwrite our costly clothing and shoe budget for the entire year.

We need your help on the India Nunnery Campus in Jackson, on the Farrow Manor Campus in Tate County, at Dickerson Place in Lincoln County and at our New Albany Group Home.

The Baptist Children's Village

Box 11308 — Delta Station

Jackson, Mississippi 39213

Telephone — 922-2242

Thursday, March 11, 1982

Bible Book Series



The King's agony and arrest

By Howard E. Spell, Clinton
Matthew 26:31-56

Although the material in chapters 14-17 of the Gospel according to John is not recorded by Matthew, it fits in our story at this point and it would be well to read those chapters now. This statements made by Jesus, other than the long prayer, were likely made as he and the disciples lingered in the upper room or as they walked toward Gethsemane.

I. The failure of his followers predicted (26:31-35)

Following their experiences in the upper room, Jesus and the eleven went through the city of Jerusalem and across the valley to the Mount of Olives where there was a garden. Somewhere along the way Jesus predicted all of the eleven would "fall away" that night because of him. It was then that Peter affirmed his loyalty assuring Jesus he never fall away. Knowing what was ahead, Jesus told him that even before rooster crowing time that night he would deny him three times. But so confident was Peter that he affirmed he would die before he would deny him.

II. The agony in the garden (26:36-46)

Archaeologists tell us the exact location of the Garden of Gethsemane is unknown at this time. This is said even though visitors to Jerusalem today are shown a place by that name and even have pointed out to them the very olive tree under which they claim Peter fell asleep. After all the location is relatively unimportant; what took place there is of tremendous significance.

It would be presumptuous for one to try to explain the agony Jesus experienced in the garden. Here was suffering more intense than even the physical torture through which he would go the next day. We should also keep in mind the suffering of God the Father as he had to watch his Son suffer without being able to help. Father and Son both agonized.

Leaving eight of the disciples in one place, Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him deeper in the garden and urged them to remain there and keep watch while he went on beyond them. If there was a time in which Jesus needed the companionship and understanding of others, this was it; but when he came back, he found the three disciples asleep and he exclaimed, "So, you men could not watch with Me for one hour?" (26:40b NASV).

Probably the emphasis in that quo-

tation should be on the word "with." Although Jesus knew this was a battle which he must fight alone, he did yearn for the concern and interest of others and wanted them to watch and pray with him. It is interesting to note that even in his hour of deep need he was also concerned about the disciples and urged them to pray for themselves. He knew the weakness of the flesh and could foresee some of the temptations they would face.

Having left the disciples again that he might go through another session of struggle, Matthew tells us he prayed: "My Father, if this cannot pass away unless I drink it, Thy will be done" (26:42b NASV). The victory had been won. Whatever temptation there had been not to go through it had been overcome. One can only wonder at his feeling when he returned the third time to find the disciples asleep.

III. The betrayal and arrest (26:47-56)

It is quite likely Judas knew Jesus came often to this particular place to pray. Thus he had no trouble finding him and the disciples. Judas was accompanied by a "great multitude" who were well armed. They were probably temple guards and others who had been sent by the chief priests and the elders and had been told by Judas the man they were to seize would be the one he kissed. Luke tells us when this happened, Jesus said,

"Judas are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" (Luke 22:48 NASV).

As the crowd came forward to lay hands on Jesus, one of those with him (Matthew does not identify him) drew out a sword and cut off the ear of a slave of the high priest. There seems little doubt that John wrote his Gospel a number of years later, and by that time it was generally known that Simon Peter was the one wielding the sword. Thus John does not hesitate to name him and also the name of the servant of the high priest (John 18:10).

It is interesting to note that Luke, the physician, is the only one of the gospel writers to tell us Jesus healed the ear of Malcus.

Since Jews from many parts of the empire came to Jerusalem for their annual feasts resulting in huge crowds, Roman law prohibited their bearing arms on feast days. This was done to lessen the chance of an uprising that might overpower the Roman garrison. Thus Simon Peter is now a law-violator. Furthermore he must have struck with intent to kill since it is unlikely that he meant to cut off only

an ear of Malcus. Jesus had Simon Peter put away his sword.

Turning to the armed crowd, Jesus asked them why they had come so heavily armed as though he were a robber. He reminded them he had been teaching the people in the temple and they had not sought to seize him. Naturally they had no reply, but Matthew reminds us, "but all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled" (26:56a NASV).

It is at this point Matthew records a sad fact. All of the disciples fled, leaving Jesus alone in the hands of the crowd. Did these men who earlier had affirmed their loyalty panic? Did they fear for their own lives! Lest we be too quick to judge others or too harsh in our criticism, we need to examine ourselves to see if there are not times today when, by our failure to testify of our faith in him, we leave him alone. We forget so very easily the responsibility we have to identify ourselves with his plan for witnessing to a lost world. Do we go with him, or leave him alone?

Revival Dates

Cliff Temple Baptist Church, Natchez (Adams): March 14-19; Johnny Parks of Kosciusko, evangelist; Hubert Green of Brookhaven, music director; Sunday services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekday services at 10:30 a.m. and 7:15 p.m.; W. G. Dowdy, pastor.

Hollandale Church: March 14-18; James Richardson, pastor at Madison Baptist Church, and a former president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, evangelist; Tommy Howard, minister of music and education at First Baptist, Leland (where Richardson was formerly pastor for 23 years), singer; services at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sunday; other evenings at 7:30; evening sessions to be broadcast over a local radio station. On Saturday, March 13, a "day of prayer chain" will be sponsored by various Sunday School classes and other groups.

First Baptist Church of Runnelstown near Hattiesburg: March 21-26; services at 7 p.m.; David Shofner of Pensacola, Fla., evangelist; Budda Lammons of First, Runnelstown, leading the music; Richard White, pastor.

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